

Chap 239

An Act to incorporate the village of Lake Mills.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. That all that district of country included in the following description, lying and being in the town of **Corporate limits** Lake Mills, county of Jefferson, and state of Wisconsin, viz: the south-east quarter of section eleven, the south-west quarter of section twelve, the north-west quarter of section thirteen, and the north-east quarter of section fourteen, in township number seven, (7,) north of range number thirteen, (13,) east, in the county of Jefferson, shall hereafter be known and designated as the village of Lake Mills, and the inhabitants residing or who may hereafter reside within the limits of said description, are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of "The President and Trustees of the Village of Lake Mills," and by that name they and their successors forever hereafter shall and may have perpetual succession, and shall be persons in law, capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, answering and being answered unto, defending and being defended, in all courts and places, and in all suits whatever.

SEC. 2. It shall be lawful for all free male inhabitants of said village, over the age of twenty-one years, to meet **Where first election to be held.** at the Lake Mills House on the last Monday of March next, at ten o'clock, A. M. of said day, and choose *viva voce*, two judges of election and one clerk, and elect by ballot one president who shall be *ex officio* a trustee, six trustees, one treasurer, one assessor, one clerk, and one marshal.

SEC. 3. On the last Monday in March in each year **Annual election** thereafter, there shall be an annual election of the officers of said village above specified, and the trustees shall give twenty days' notice of the time and place of holding the same, and they or any two of them shall preside at the same.

SEC. 4. No person shall be eligible to any of said offices **Eligibility.** unless he be an elector and a freeholder in said village.

SEC. 5. At all elections by the voters of the village, **When polls to be opened.** held under this act, the polls shall be opened at ten o'clock A. M. and continue open until four o'clock, P. M., and the election shall be conducted in a similar manner, as far as may be, to the election for member of congress. A plurality of votes shall in all cases decide the election.

SEC. 6. In case such officers or any of them shall not be chosen on the day herein appointed for the same, the

corporation shall not thereby be dissolved, but vacancies of the office of president or trustees shall be filled at a special election to be called by the remaining trustees, and vacancies in all other offices shall be filled by the trustees.

How vacancies filled.

SEC. 7. All of said officers shall hold their offices until the last Monday of March next after their election, and until others are elected and qualified in their stead.

Term of office.

SEC. 8. Every officer elected under this act, before he enters upon the duties of his office, and within ten days after his election, shall take an oath faithfully to discharge the duties of his office, and to support the constitution of the United States and the laws and constitution of this state, and if any such person shall not take such oath within ten days after his election, his office shall thereby become vacant.

Officers to take oath.

SEC. 9. The treasurer and marshal, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, shall severally give bond to the trustees in such sum, with such conditions, and with such sureties as said trustees or a majority of them shall direct, which bonds shall be filed with the clerk.

What officers to give bonds.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all the meetings of the trustees, to see that all by-laws and ordinances are duly observed, and to prosecute all suits which may be necessary in the name of the corporation.

Duties of president.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a record of the doings of the board of trustees, especially of the passing of by-laws, ordinances and regulations, and also a faithful record of all the doings and votes of the inhabitants of said village, at their annual and other legal meetings, and to keep on file all papers which may be ordained by the trustees. The records kept by the clerk shall be evidence in all legal proceedings, and copies of all papers duly filed [in] his office, and transcripts from the records of proceedings of the board of trustees, certified by him under the corporate seal, shall be evidence in all courts of the contents of the same.

Duties of clerk.

SEC. 12. The treasurer of said village shall receive all moneys which may be collected for the use of the corporation, by virtue of this act or by virtue of any by-laws or ordinances of the corporation, or which may arise from any other source and belong to the corporation, and give to the person paying the same, his receipt therefor. All moneys shall be drawn from the treasury by warrants or orders, signed by the president by order of the trustees, and countersigned by the clerk, who

Duties of treasurer.

shall keep an account thereof in a book to be by him kept for that purpose, which warrant or order shall set forth for what purpose the amount specified therein is to be paid; and the said treasurer shall pay out of the funds of the corporation in no other way whatever. He shall keep just and accurate accounts of all moneys and other things coming into his hands as treasurer, in a book to be provided by the corporation for that purpose, and which shall remain the property of said corporation, wherein he shall note the time when, the person from whom, the amount of the several sums received, and the source from whence the said sums respectively arose, and in a manner equally accurate and specific, in the same book, he shall duly enter an account of all sums paid out, which book shall at all times be open to the inspection of the voters of said village. He shall, as often as they shall require, render to the board of trustees a minute account of all his receipts and payments.

Powers of marshal. SEC. 13. The marshal elected under this act shall have the same powers that constables now have or may hereafter have by law.

Powers of trustees. SEC. 14. The trustees shall have the following powers, to wit:

Seal. 1. To have a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

May hold estate. 2. To purchase, hold or convey any estate, real or personal, for the use of the corporation.

To open streets. 3. To make, open, keep in repair, grade, improve, or discontinue streets, avenues, lanes, alleys, sewers, and side walks, to keep them free from incumbrances, and to protect them from injury; also to protect shade or ornamental trees, on the public square, or in the streets of the corporation.

To regulate fire department. 4. To organize fire companies, and hook and ladder companies, to regulate their government and the times and manner of their exercise, to furnish all necessary apparatus for the extinguishment of fire, to require the owners of buildings to provide and keep suitable ladders and fire buckets, which are hereby declared to be appurtenances to real estate, and exempt from seizure, distress, or sale in any manner, and if the owner refuses to procure suitable ladders or fire buckets after reasonable notice, the trustees may procure and deliver the same to him, and in default of payment thereof may bring an action of debt against said owner, and be entitled to recover in said action the value of such ladders or fire buckets, or both, with costs of suit; to regulate the storage of gun powder and other dangerous

materials; to direct the safe construction for the deposit of ashes, and severally to enter into or appoint one or more officers to enter into, at reasonable times, and examine all dwelling houses, lots, yards, enclosures, and buildings of every description, in order to discover whether any of them are in a dangerous condition, and to cause such as may be dangerous to be put into a safe condition; to regulate the manner of putting up stoves and stove pipe; to prevent fires and the use of fire arms and fire works within the limits of said corporation or any part thereof; to compel the inhabitants of said village to aid in the extinguishment of fires, and to pull, break down, and raze such building or buildings in the vicinity of fire as shall be directed by the trustees or any three of them who may be present at a fire, for the purpose of preventing its communication to other buildings; and any building so destroyed shall be paid for by the corporation; to construct and preserve reservoirs, pumps, wells, and other water works, and to regulate the use thereof, and generally to establish such other measures of prudence for the prevention or extinguishment of fires as they shall deem proper.

5. To clear out and remove vegetable matter and nuisances from the streams or other waters in said corporation, and prevent their accumulation in said waters, and generally to take such other measures for the public health as they shall deem proper. To remove nuisances.

6. To prevent, remove, or abate nuisances.

7. To restrain the running at large of cattle, hogs, and all other animals; to establish pounds and appoint pound masters and fence viewers, and prescribe their powers and duties. To prevent animals from running at large.

8. To protect monuments in said corporation.

9. To purchase, hold, inclose, lay out, ornament, and regulate a burying ground in said village, and to sell lots therein, and regulate the burial of the dead. To preserve cemetery.

10. To establish and regulate markets, and restrain sales in the streets; to establish and regulate a public scale, and appoint a weigher to attend the same; to regulate the place and manner of selling hay and other gross commodities. To regulate markets.

11. To suppress disorderly and gaming houses, gambling, and devices for the purposes of gaming. To suppress gambling.

12. To call regular and special meetings of the voters of said village. To call meetings

13. To prescribe the compensation of all officers of the corporation, except their own. To prescribe compensation of officers.

14. To tax every male resident of said village above the

Poll tax. age of twenty-one years, and under the age of fifty-five years, two days' labor, or in lieu thereof, two dollars, to be appropriated in improving the streets of said village, under the direction of such persons as they may appoint; and such work shall excuse them from working a poll tax on the public highway.

To levy side walk tax. 15. Upon the application of two-thirds of the owners of the lots on any street, or on one side of any street or block, to levy and collect a special tax on the owners of the lots on such street, or part of street, according to the respective parts, for the purpose of making a cross walk or side walk along the same.

Schools. 16. To organize school districts, to receive the money coming from the county and state for the benefit of the scholars in said village, and take such measures for the benefit of public instructions as they may deem proper.

To make by-laws. 17. To make, pass, ordain, and establish such by-laws, ordinances, and regulations, not repugnant to the laws of this state, or to the laws and constitution of the United States, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act as they may deem proper; but no such ordinance or by-law shall take effect until the same shall have been published three weeks successively; and to repeal or amend the same at pleasure.

Penalties. SEC. 15. The said trustees, as often as they shall make or publish any by-laws, regulation, or ordinance, may ordain and provide such reasonable fines, forfeitures, and penalties upon the offenders against any such by-laws, regulations, or ordinances, as they shall deem proper, not exceeding twenty dollars for any one offence, to be prosecuted and recovered before any justice of the peace, or court having cognizance of the same, in the name of the corporation, to and for the use of the corporation; and in any such action it shall be lawful to declare generally in debt for such penalty or forfeiture, and to give the special matter in evidence, and the defendant may plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence. All expenses incurred in prosecuting for the recovery of any penalty or forfeiture, shall be defrayed by the corporation; and all penalties and forfeitures, when recovered, shall be collected with costs, and paid to the treasurer for the use of the corporation; also to remit such fines or penalties or any part thereof, as shall appear to the trustees to have been excessively or unjustly imposed.

Evidence of publication. SEC. 16. The affidavit of the printer of the publication of any by-law or ordinance, or the affidavit or oath of the clerk of the corporation of the putting up notices, by

laws, or ordinances, as required by this act, shall be sufficient proof in all courts and elsewhere, that such by-laws, notices, and ordinances were properly published or posted up.

SEC. 17. Whenever by this act, the publication of any by-law, ordinance, or advertisement of delinquent town lots is required, the same shall be published in one or more newspapers printed in said village, if there be any, for three weeks successively: *Provided*, That the trustees shall let the corporation printing to such publisher or printer of a public newspaper who shall agree to print them for the lowest price: *And provided further*, That said trustees shall not pay for said printing a greater sum to any such printer than fifty cents per folio for the first insertion, and twenty cents for each subsequent insertion per folio. But if there be no newspaper published in said village, or if there be one, and the publisher thereof shall refuse to publish such by-law, ordinance, or advertisement, for the price herein specified, then it shall be lawful to publish the same by posting copies thereof in three of the most public places in said village.

By-laws to be published.

SEC. 18. Any four of said trustees shall be a quorum for the transaction of all business; but no by-law or ordinance shall pass unless four of said trustees shall concur therein.

Quorum.

SEC. 19. No person shall be an incompetent judge, justice, witness, or juror by reason of his being an inhabitant or freeholder in said village, in any action or proceeding in which said corporation is a party or interested.

Inhabitants not to be incompetent jurors, &c.

SEC. 20. Every inhabitant of said corporation belonging to any fire company, or hook and ladder company therein, shall be exempt from serving as jurors and from doing military duty, except in case of war, invasion, or insurrection.

Firemen exempt from military duty.

SEC. 21. It shall be the duty of the trustees, before the annual election, to publish a full and correct statement, in detail, of the receipts and expenditures by said trustees for said corporation, during the past year.

To publish statement.

SEC. 22. The following property shall not be taxed by virtue of any law or ordinance adopted by the trustees of said village of Lake Mills, viz: the property of the United States, of this state, of Jefferson county, of said corporation, and of all incorporated literary, benevolent, charitable, and scientific institutions, every public library, school house, house of public worship, academy, or other seminary of learning, and the lot or lots belonging to the same.

Property exempt

SEC. 23. All property, real and personal, within the limits of the corporation, and all property subject to be

taxed by the county of Jefferson, not excepted above, shall be subject to taxation.

May levy tax. SEC. 24. The trustees shall have power to levy and collect annually, a tax on all property subject to taxation in said corporation, not exceeding the rate of one dollar on every one hundred dollars of the assessment valuation thereof.

Assessment roll. SEC. 25. It shall be the duty of the assessor, between the first day of April and the fifth day of May of each year, to make out an assessment roll, in which he shall set down the names of all the taxable inhabitants of said corporation, and the names so far as (*tho' y'*) [he] can ascertain, of non-residents who shall own real estate therein, and the description quantity, and value of all the property subject to taxation in said village, and deposit the same with the clerk on or before the first day of May in each year, and the said assessor shall assess all property subject to taxation within the said corporation at its cash value at the time of making such assessment.

To be laid before trustees. SEC. 26. It shall be the duty of the clerk annually, on the first Monday of May, to lay the assessment roll before the trustees; at which time they shall meet and determine the rate per centum to be taxed on the assessment roll for the current year; at which time, any person feeling aggrieved at the value the assessor may have put upon his or her property, may appeal to the board of trustees, who may alter the same as justice may require; and when the said trustees shall have determined the rate per centum to be taxed on the assessed value of property, as contained in the assessment roll as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the clerk, in the month of May, to make out in accordance with such determination, a schedule of all the property as contained in said assessment roll, after the same shall have been corrected by the said trustees, together with the names of the owners thereof, when known, annexing to each lot or other kind of property, the amount of taxes which shall be chargeable on the same, agreeably to the assessment, and the rate per centum of taxation as fixed by the trustees; which schedule shall be called the tax list, and shall be recorded in a book to be by him kept for that purpose, and the said tax lists, or a record thereof, shall either of them be conclusive evidence of the amount of corporation taxes assessed for the year for which the same shall be made out and dated.

To complete tax list. SEC. 27. It shall be the duty of the clerk to complete and record the tax list as aforesaid, and deliver the same to the treasurer in the month of May, and make a record of such de-

livery in the book where such list shall be recorded, which record shall be conclusive evidence of such delivery, and the tax assessed on real estate shall be a lien on the same from the first day of May until such tax shall be paid, together with all penalties and costs which may accrue thereon, agreeably to the provisions of this act.

SEC. 28. Upon the receipt of the tax list as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the treasurer to give public notice in a newspaper printed in said corporation, if there is one, and if none, then by posting up notices in three of the most public places, that such tax list has been committed to him for the purpose of collecting the taxes thereon, and that he will receive payment for taxes at his office until the first day of September then ensuing, subject to a deduction of five per centum if paid before the first day of September. To give notice.

SEC. 29. If the taxes are not paid to the treasurer on or before the first day of September, he may proceed to collect the same by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the persons charged, giving six days' notice of the time and place of such sale, by written notices set up in three public places in said village. To collect tax.

SEC. 30. In case the tax on any lot or other piece of land shall remain unpaid on the first day of October, and there are no goods or chattels of the person charged therewith to be found, it shall be the duty of the treasurer to make out a general advertisement stating that all lots and other pieces of land upon which the taxes have not been paid, will be sold by him on the third Monday of December, at a place to be therein mentioned, for the purpose of paying the taxes which may be assessed thereon, together with all costs and liabilities which shall accrue by advertisement and sale, agreeably to the provisions of this act. Such advertisement shall be published four successive weeks, commencing in the month of October, in a newspaper printed in said corporation, if there be any, and if not, by posting up the same in three of the most public places: *Provided*, That in case of assessment of taxes in gross upon any tract or lot of land, the treasurer, upon application of any claimant or owner of a part thereof, either divided or undivided, shall receive a part of the taxes, interest, and charges due thereon, proportionate to the quantity of such lot or tract so owned or claimed, and the balance of such taxes, interest, and charges, shall be a lien only on the remainder of such lot or tract of land. Delinquent list

SEC. 31. On the third Monday of December, the treasurer shall commence the sale of the said lots and lands, Proviso.
Sale of lands.

and continue the same from day to day until all shall have been sold or offered for sale. When a lot or tract of land shall be offered for sale, the treasurer shall designate what part or portion of the same shall be sold, if a less portion than the whole tract shall be bid, and shall give to the purchaser a certificate describing the lands sold with sufficient certainty, stating the sum paid therefor, including fees, and the time when the purchaser will be entitled to a deed for the said land; and if the person claiming title to the lots or lands described in such certificate, shall not, within two years from the date thereof, pay to the purchaser or the treasurer, his heirs or assigns the sum mentioned in such certificate, together with the interest thereon, at the rate of twenty-five per cent. per annum, from the date of such certificate, the treasurer shall, at the expiration of said two years, execute to the purchaser, his heirs, or assigns, a conveyance of the lots or lands so sold; which conveyance shall vest in the person or persons to whom it shall be given, an absolute estate in fee simple, and the said conveyance shall be conclusive evidence that the sale was regular, according to the provisions of this act, and every such conveyance executed by the treasurer under his hand and seal, in the name and on the behalf of the village of Lake Mills, and the execution thereof witnessed and acknowledged as by law in other cases provided, may be given in evidence and recorded in the same manner and with the like effect as a deed regularly acknowledged by the grantor may be given in evidence and recorded: *Provided*, That no deed given in pursuance of this act, shall have any validity or force where the taxes shall have been paid previous to such sale.

Proviso.

Agent to buy lands.

SEC. 32. It shall be lawful for the trustees aforesaid to appoint an agent to attend any sales of lands made for the purpose of collecting taxes due said corporation, and bid off lands for the taxes and charges due thereon, in the name of said trustees, and their successors shall acquire by such purchase, in trust for such corporation, all the rights which might have been acquired by any other purchaser: *Provided*, That the said agent shall not purchase any land in the name of the trustees, until the same shall have been once offered and not bid upon by other persons.

To publish statement of forfeiture of lands.

SEC. 23. In the month of July of each year, the treasurer shall publish in some newspaper printed in said village, if one be published therein, and if not, in some paper printed nearest thereto, for three weeks successively, an advertisement stating each lot and tract of land which will be forfeited in the ensuing December, (stating the day

thereof,) if the taxes and charges upon the same are not paid before that day, together with the amount of taxes and charges, and shall also post up three copies of said notice in three public places in said village, during the month of July. As soon as the treasurer shall have advertised as aforesaid, he shall make a record of the same upon some book by him kept for that purpose.

SEC. 34. Upon all lots or tracts of land on which the taxes shall not be paid before the first day of October, as aforesaid, and which shall be advertised for sale for non-payment of taxes, and upon all lots or pieces of land sold as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the treasurer to demand and receive the following fees: for each tract or lot of land advertised for sale, three cents; for certificate of sale, twelve and a half cents; for certifying the sum necessary to redeem any lot or tract of land, sold, twelve and a half cents; for each deed or conveyance executed by him, for one lot or tract, one dollar; for each additional tract included in one deed, by order of the purchaser, fifty cents. The said fees shall be paid by the person receiving the deed, except for advertising, where the taxes shall be paid before sale, in which case, the person paying the taxes shall be chargeable with and pay the fees for advertising.

Treasurer's fees

SEC. 35. If any person who shall purchase any lot or tract of land in pursuance of the provisions of this act, shall pay any tax returned subsequent to such purchase, on such lot or piece of land, the person who shall (return) [redeem] such lot or piece of land, shall pay the amount of such tax list with interest.

Person redeeming to pay tax.

SEC. 36. The trustees shall have the sole right of licensing and regulating groceries, victualing houses, taverns, shows, public exhibitions, and theatrical or other entertainments, and also the sale of strong and spirituous liquors, within said corporation, and shall have power to fix such rates of licenses, and enact such by-laws on the subject with penalties for the breach thereof as they may think proper, and to collect such penalties in the same manner provided for collecting other penalties by this act: *Provided*, That any and every person licensed by said corporation, shall be required to pay such additional tax for license as is now or may hereafter be prescribed by law, to be paid into the county treasury; and the county supervisors of Jefferson county shall have power and authority to sue for and collect such additional tax for the use of the county.

To give licenses.

Proviso.

SEC. 37. All persons entitled to vote as aforesaid, and who shall have resided within said corporation six months

Qualification of voters.

immediately previous to an election therein, shall be entitled to vote at any election or meeting authorized by this act.

Public act.

SEC. 38. This act shall be considered a public act, and may be altered, amended, or repealed by any future legislature.

J. McM. SHAFER,
Speaker of the Assembly.

E. B. DEAN, JR.,
President pro tem. of the Senate.

Approved April 9, 1852.

LEONARD J. FARWELL.

[*Published May 20, 1852.*]

Chap 240 An Act to legalize the acts of Joint School District Number Seven, of Mackford and Fox Lake.

The people of the State of Wisconsin represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Acts legalized.

SECTION 1. All the acts of joint school district number seven, in the towns of Mackford, in Marquette county, and Fox Lake, in Dodge county, since the organization of such districts, are hereby declared to be legal and valid, in the same manner as they would have been if a description of the formation of such district had been filed in each of the town clerks' offices of said towns in which such district is situated at the time of the formation of the same, and such district shall be deemed and held to be a legal district notwithstanding no description of such formation has been filed in the town clerks' offices of said towns.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

J. McM. SHAFER,
Speaker of the Assembly.

E. B. DEAN, JR.,
President pro tem. of the Senate.

Approved, April 9, 1852.

LEONARD J. FARWELL.

Chap 241

An Act to vacate the town plat of La Grange, in the county of Marquette.

The people of the State of Wisconsin represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. That the town plat of the village of La Grange, lying on section thirty-two, in township number

Plat vacated.